

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 759

Commending the Festival of Children Foundation for its outstanding efforts on behalf of children and expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the designation of a “Child Awareness Month”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2004

Mr. ROHRABACHER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

RESOLUTION

Commending the Festival of Children Foundation for its outstanding efforts on behalf of children and expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the designation of a “Child Awareness Month”.

Whereas children represent the Nation’s future and numerous individuals and organizations across the United States devote precious time, energy, and resources to enrich that future by helping children advance their hopes and dreams and to realize their aspirations;

Whereas it is in the public interest to increase awareness of children’s special needs and the demonstrably effective efforts of those making a real difference in children’s lives, which in turn and over time will serve to strengthen the social fabric of our country;

Whereas the Festival of Children Foundation has been established in southern California (1) to showcase those non-profit groups performing exemplary works, so that they may through increased exposure secure and sustain the volunteer, leadership, and financial support necessary to be successful, (2) to provide a free resource to such groups so that they might more easily leverage scarce resources through creative, collaborative efforts to serve their shared constituencies for the betterment of the community at large, and (3) to provide a free and effective platform to facilitate such groups sharing lessons learned in bringing a results orientation to community mobilization, strategic planning, and overall best practices;

Whereas during the last two years more than 100 non-profit groups in southern California have benefited enormously from exposure they could not otherwise have received but for the Festival of Children Foundation, principally through programs and activities at South Coast Plaza, one of the Nation's premier retail, commercial and cultural centers, where more than 2,000,000 visitors are estimated to have seen the Festival's exhibits;

Whereas September is a time, as children return to school, that families and the Nation as a whole are especially mindful of children and their special needs and opportunities;

Whereas in September 2004 the Festival of Children Foundation, in partnership with South Coast Plaza and Children's Hospital, has invited 50 agencies and organizations that serve children throughout southern California to have a month of high profile exhibits at South Coast Plaza, along with another 50 such groups to participate

in other programs and activities as part the Foundation’s ongoing mission; and

Whereas the Orange County, California Board of Supervisors and the California State Legislature have previously taken official actions commending the Festival of Children and recognizing September as “Child Awareness Month;”: Now, therefore, be it—

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the Festival of Children Founda-
3 tion for its outstanding efforts on behalf of children;

4 (2) expresses its support for the designation of
5 a “Child Awareness Month” in the United States;
6 and

7 (3) encourages others across the Nation, includ-
8 ing local governments, non-profit organizations,
9 businesses, volunteers, and philanthropists, to look
10 at the Festival of Children in California as a model
11 to emulate for the support of those groups devoted
12 to children in their own communities.

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